

Health Partnership Program Fact Sheet

NIAMS Health Partnership Program

The Health Partnership Program (HPP) is a collaboration between the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) and Washington, D.C. area community organizations and representatives. Established in February 2000, the Health Partnership Program helps address health disparities in arthritis and other rheumatic diseases and promotes a community-based medical research program.



What are the HPP's Focus Areas?

Public Health Education

Increase awareness and knowledge about treatment and prevention of rheumatic diseases such as arthritis and lupus.

Patient Care

Improve access to high-quality specialized medical care in rheumatology for patients from minority communities.

Health Disparities Research

Improve scientific information about the uneven burden of rheumatic diseases among affected racial and ethnic groups.

Recruitment to Research Careers

Increase the number of researchers, physicians, and allied health professionals from minority communities.

Community Relations

Strengthen trust and involvement of people from minority communities in the medical research process by engaging them as stakeholders, promoting their participation in clinical studies at the Community Health Center, and informing them about clinical advances that may benefit their health and well-being.

What is the NIAMS Community Health Center?

The NIAMS Community Health Center (CHC), located in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of northwest Washington, D.C., is the platform for the HPP's research, education, and training activities. The CHC offers assistance in evaluating and treating conditions such as arthritis, lupus, and other rheumatic diseases. All patients at the CHC are enrolled in the *Natural History Study of Rheumatic Diseases in Minorities*, which is designed to gather information on how minority populations are disproportionately affected by rheumatic diseases.

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Who are the HPP partners and what do they do?

HPP partners are individuals and community organizations that are committed to improving the health and wellness of Washington, D.C. area residents. These include local government agencies, schools and universities, faith-based organizations, civic and community groups, voluntary and professional organizations, and private businesses.

Community partners offer input on the HPP's direction and help promote NIAMS' research, training, and education resources. Some examples of partner activities are:

- Sharing NIAMS' health materials with community members;
- Involving NIAMS in community health fairs and events;
- Promoting the work of the Community Health Center by referring patients in need; and
- Reviewing patient education information in the planning and development stages.

What are the benefits of being an HPP Partner?

■ Free Health Educational Materials

NIAMS offers bulk quantities of health education materials free of charge for your outreach and communication efforts.

■ Networking Opportunities

NIAMS promotes networking opportunities and collaboration with like-minded organizations that have an interest in improving the community's health and well-being.

■ Expertise

NIAMS provides science-based information on diseases and conditions of bones, joints, muscles, and skin through its publications and toll-free information lines.



Contact Us

for more information about the Health Partnership Program:

☎ 301-496-8190
🌐 www.niams.nih.gov

NIAMS mission

The mission of NIAMS, a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health is:

- to support research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of diseases and conditions of bones, joints, muscles, and skin;
- to train basic and clinical scientists to carry out this research; and
- to disseminate information on the progress of research in these diseases.

To Order

free publications and to find more resources about diseases and conditions of bones, joints, muscles, and skin:

☎ 1-877-22-NIAMS | 301-565-2966 (TTY)
🌐 www.niams.nih.gov/health_info